

the removal of Fidel Castro from power, but rather you will find hungry families living in unnecessary poverty. In 2005 you will find a large constituency of Cuban Americans such as U.S. soldier Sgt. Carlos Lazo, who are angered and embittered by U.S. policies that limit visits with their family members to only once every three years.

You will find a Cuban-American constituency angered by the fact that in the wake of Hurricane Dennis (a disastrous force that wrecked havoc on the island and killed 16) they are powerless to help their family members still on the island because of remittance and aid restrictions.

Cuban people are well known for their strong sense of family values. It is therefore an outrage that a group of people who hold family bonds in such high esteem are prevented from assisting their families in a time of overwhelming need because of outdated and unreasonable U.S. policy.

Today marks the 52nd anniversary of the start of the Cuban Revolution and for 46 years Cuba's government has remained the same. This is overwhelming evidence that U.S. policy towards Cuba must be reevaluated.

We should move towards a policy of active engagement with the people of Cuba, encouraging travel and visits to the island of all Americans who wish to go. The very presence of a significant number of U.S. citizens affluent and free will be an opponent to the Castro regime and will serve as a contrast that will sharpen the realization of the Cuban people of the failure of Communism to provide them with an economic system which can get them out of the poverty which afflicts most of the Cuban people. Visiting U.S. citizens will inevitably place enormous pressure on the Castro regime.

As it stands our policy toward Cuba is one that severely limits the availability of medicine and medical supplies to the Cuban people. It is a policy that denies U.S. Citizens the right to travel where they choose. It is a policy that prevents Cuban and American diplomats from establishing meaningful channels of communication to improve our relationship and prevent misunderstandings.

It is a policy that denies American companies and businesses access to an important and potentially enormous new market for American goods, services, and ideas. It is a policy that prohibits a country ninety miles from our shores from being a partner in our global effort to thwart terrorism, to counter drug traffickers, or protect our overlapping ecosystems. Most importantly however, it is a policy that has proven itself ineffective for more than 40 years.

The Cuban people are the ones who are suffering and it is time to put politics aside and work on developing a new foreign policy standard in regards to Cuba. Developing a relationship with Cuba is an important foreign policy goal and in order to achieve this goal a new and rational approach to relations between our countries is urgently needed, based on dialogue, open travel and increased trade.

I introduce in the RECORD an article from today's Miami Herald reporting on the circumstances in Cuba on the eve of the celebration of the 52nd anniversary of the start of the Cuban revolution.

[From the Miami Herald, July 26, 2005]

PATIENCE WEARS THIN ON EVE OF JULY 26

SEVERAL CUBAN DISSIDENTS REMAINED IN DETENTION AS THE GOVERNMENT SCALED BACK PLANS FOR FESTIVITIES COMMEMORATING THE START OF THE REVOLUTION.

(By Nancy San Martin)

When Cuban leader Fidel Castro takes to the microphone as expected today to commemorate the 52nd anniversary of an attack that marked the start of his revolution, many on the island will cling to words that promise relief from conditions exhausting the patience of an already exasperated population.

Human-rights activists on the island have said that "tempers are flaring" as the country continues to struggle with extended blackouts and a shortage of food, made worse by Hurricane Dennis.

Meanwhile, 10 of as many as 33 dissidents arrested last week spent their third day in custody Monday, opposition leaders in Havana reported. They were detained as they tried to participate in an anti-government protest in front of the French Embassy in Havana. And while the European Union joined the United States in condemning the arrests, leaders of the opposition movement on the island began plotting their next move to bring international attention to their plight.

"The detentions are completely arbitrary," said prominent dissident Martha Beatriz Roque, who was released from custody Saturday without charges. "We cannot allow the government to continue to treat us this way."

"There must be a response, not only from the opposition but from everybody," Roque told The Herald in a telephone interview, declining to reveal whether any new anti-government protests were planned in the coming days. However, she hinted they could be organized at a moment's notice.

"All I can say is that opposition groups all over the island are on alert," Roque said. "They are waiting for the call to take to the streets. I see the strong possibility of civil unrest."

Roque's determination to strike back comes as the government prepares to commemorate the July 26, 1953, assault led by Castro in a failed attempt to seize the Cuban army's Moncada Barracks in the eastern city of Santiago.

The event planted the seeds of a revolution that brought Castro to power in 1959. The anniversary usually is marked by big public events, but this year's planned celebration appears more subdued.

Castro is expected to give a speech, but as of late Monday, the location had not been announced. Other events were planned to take place indoors.

Several opposition leaders said the scaled-back festivities illustrate government fear that widespread discontent could escalate. Human-rights activists in Cuba have said patience is wearing thin as the island continues to struggle with blackouts that can last 12 or more hours a day, spoiling what little food there is in most refrigerators. Several anti-government incidents have been reported, and police presence has been boosted.

Besides the 10 in custody since last week, six others who tried to participate in a separate demonstration July 13 remain jailed on "public disorder" charges.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am writing to notify you that I was absent July 20, 2005. They reason for my absence was that I had to have an emergency appendectomy at the Bethesda Naval Hospital.

Regarding the votes that I missed please see below for the way that I would have voted had I been present: Vote No. 390—King (IA) No. 46 Amendment—"aye", Vote No. 391—Kucinich Amendment—"nay", Vote No. 392—Lantos Amendment—"aye", Vote No. 393—Rogers (MI) Amendment—"aye", Vote No. 394—Watson No. 38 Amendment—"aye", Vote No. 395—Berkley/Crowley Amendment—"aye", Vote No. 396—Rohrabacher Amendment—"aye", Vote No. 397—Ros-Lehtinen Amendment—"aye", Vote No. 398—Democrat Motion to Recommit—"nay", Vote No. 399—Final Passage of H.R. 2601—"aye", Vote No. 400—Rolled Suspension Vote on H. Res. 326—"aye".

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS WITH RESPECT TO COMMEMORATION OF WOMEN SUFFRAGISTS

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.J. Res. 59, to Establish Women's Suffrage Commemoration Day.

With this Commemoration Day, we pay tribute to our foremothers, who worked tirelessly for generations to gain the right to vote.

We acknowledge that the journey to equality is long and difficult, but it is well worth the fight.

And we pledge to keep the struggle for women's rights alive.

The journey towards women's rights in America is as old as our country itself. While John Adams drafted the Constitution at the Continental Congress, his wife counseled, "Remember the ladies," but the Constitution made no mention of women's rights.

So our foremothers fought on.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton declared that all men and women are created equal.

Susan B. Anthony was arrested for casting a ballot and refused to pay the bail.

Between 1917 and 1919, over a thousand women held a vigil outside of the White House, asking, "How long must women wait for liberty?"

Finally, in 1920, with the 19th Amendment, women won the right to participate in our democratic process.

As we remember the long and arduous battle for women's suffrage, let us also remember the right not yet won. 157 years ago, Elizabeth Cady Stanton called for equal rights for all Americans. It is time for our Constitution to echo that sentiment. There is no better tribute to our brave foremothers than to pass the Equal Rights Amendment.

Only the ERA can prevent women's rights from being rolled back. Afghanistan, Bosnia

and Herzegovina, Finland, Austria, and Portugal are just a handful of the countries that already guarantee non-discrimination based on sex in their constitutions. It is time we join their ranks.

Alice Paul used to say, "When you put your hand to the plow, you can't put it down until you get to the end of the row."

For Alice and Elizabeth, for Sojourner and Lucretia, for our foremothers, our grandmothers and our daughters, let us put our hands to the plow and pass the ERA.

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED IN KOREA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, 52 years ago today, on July 27, 1953, the United States, North Korea and China signed an armistice that officially ended the three-year Korean War. For too many Florida veterans, the Korean War has become known as "The Forgotten War," sandwiched between World War II and Vietnam. It was through the heroic efforts of our men and women in the Armed Forces, however, that helped maintain democracy and preserved the spirit of freedom for millions on the Korean Peninsula.

While the signing of the treaty may have ended the conflict, it did not end the United States' presence there. Thousands of brave men and women served in the U.S. Armed Forces during the three years of the war, as well as in the 52 years since the war ended. Today, my office is working hand in hand with local veterans groups to identify the thousands of 5th District constituents who served in Korea and deserve recognition.

To date, I have proudly presented more than 175 Korean Defense Service Medals (KDSM) and more than 400 Korean War Service Medals (KWSM) to my veteran constituents. The Department of Defense created these medals to recognize the sacrifices and tenure of those soldiers who served the United States cause on the Korean Peninsula. It has been an honor to present my constituent heroes with these medals and to formally thank their families and them for the commitment showed and time served.

This year's 52nd anniversary of the end of the War is an opportunity for all Americans and all Floridians to reflect on the sacrifices of the thousands of brave soldiers who died defending freedom and opportunity in a far away land. The Korean War saw 33,629 Americans give their lives for our country and for the sake of world peace. In addition to those brave heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice battling communism and oppression, another 103,824 soldiers were wounded, and 8,177 went missing in action.

As too many Florida families sadly know, 577 soldiers from our great state died during the Korean War. They made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of life, liberty and freedom. In addition to those brave heroes, we must not forget the more than 1.8 million Americans soldiers who have served in Korea since 1950. These are the men and women who I have met and presented the KDSM to and

who deserve praise for advancing the causes of democracy and freedom.

It was these brave Americans who helped stem the Communist tide in Asia. The battle for Korea helped spare Japan from the threat of Communist invasion and showed the world that the United States and its allies were prepared to resist the Communist advance. This country paid a high price in blood for the defense of Korea, but those who fell contributed much to the security we enjoy today.

Today it is clear that the Americans who fought in Korea helped build a better world for the Korean people. South Korea has flourished spectacularly under U.S. protection while Communist North Korea is in dire straits, unable to even feed its people. Like we see today in the newly liberated countries of Iraq and Afghanistan, when people have the freedom and will to determine their own fate, they will embrace democracy and freedom and the right of self-determination.

As America commemorates the 52nd anniversary of the end of the War, residents of the 5th Congressional District can pay tribute to our veterans and fallen heroes by visiting Korean War Memorials throughout the district, including a brand new memorial that opened this spring in Groveland. Take the time to shake the hand of one of our brave soldiers and say thank you for defending my freedoms and for making the world a safer place. These men and women deserve no less for their sacrifices and commitment to freedom.

IN MEMORY OF CORPORAL TYLER SETH TROVILLION, USMC

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marine Corporal Tyler Seth Trovillion, an American hero who lost his life in defense of liberty and freedom. He made the ultimate sacrifice so that others might know freedom, and I am humbled by his bravery and selflessness.

Corporal Tyler Trovillion was killed on June 15, 2005 when his vehicle hit an improvised explosive device while conducting combat operations near Ar Ramadi, Iraq. He was 23 years old. CPL Trovillion was assigned to 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Pendleton, CA and was operating with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division of the U.S. Army, which was attached to 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force. During his funeral service, CPL Trovillion was remembered as a fun-loving, hard working man who lived his life not for himself, but for others. He was a man filled with the joy of living, and we celebrate the life he lived as a son, brother and friend.

CPL Trovillion is survived by his parents, Mark and Gina Trovillion, sisters, Austin and Skye, brother Jazak and fiancée, Rachel Walker.

I can only imagine the immense pride they feel knowing that CPL Trovillion fought for what is just and right in our world. He leaves behind a legacy marked by courage, integrity and character. It was an honor and a privilege to represent this man in Congress. May God

bless all those he loved, and may I convey to them my sincerest condolences and the gratitude of the American people.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am writing to notify you that I was absent July 21, 2005. The reason for my absence was that I had to have an emergency appendectomy at the Bethesda Naval Hospital.

Regarding the votes that I missed please see below for the way that I would have voted had I been present:

Vote No. 401—Previous Question—"aye."

Vote No. 402—Adoption of the Rule for H.R. 3199—USA PATRIOT and Terrorism Prevention Reauthorization Act of 2005—"aye."

Vote No. 403—Flake/Schiff Amendment—"aye."

Vote No. 404—Issa Amendment—"aye."

Vote No. 405—Capito Amendment—"aye."

Vote No. 406—Flake/Delahunt/Otter/Nadler Amendment—"aye."

Vote No. 407—Delahunt/Flake/Otter Amendment—"aye."

Vote No. 408—Flake/Otter Amendment—"aye."

Vote No. 409—Berman/Delahunt Amendment—"nay."

Vote No. 410—Schiff/Coble/Forbes Amendment—"aye."

Vote No. 411—Hart Amendment—"aye."

Vote No. 412—Jackson-Lee Amendment—"nay."

Vote No. 413—Likely Democrat Motion to Recommit—"nay."

Vote No. 414—Final Passage of H.R. 3199—USA PATRIOT and Terrorism Prevention Reauthorization Act of 2005—"aye."

MEDICAL DEVICE USER FEE STABILIZATION ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2005

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, before 2002, the government funded the approval process for pacemakers, catheters, defibrillators, contact lenses, hip prosthetics, and other medical devices using only taxpayer funding.

This publicly funded process was a mess. It significantly delayed Food and Drug Administration approval of new, life-saving medical devices and prevent patients from benefiting from this new technology. To end this delay, Congress unanimously passed The Medical Device User Fee and Modernization Act in 2002. MDUFMA overcame obstacles at the FDA that prevent timely approval of new life-saving medical technologies without compromising the safety of consumers.

Modeled after a similar program used to approve medicines and pharmaceuticals, MDUFMA created a stable funding base for the FDA. It combines industry paid user fees and Congressional appropriations. As a result,